AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

DO NOT ENTER: /S.A./

1. (Currently Amended) A flake pigment comprising base particles composed of flake particles and a single-layer or double-layer coat covering the surface of each said base particle, wherein at least one layer of said single-layer or double-layer coat is made of a resin composition containing a copolymer comprising a bond unit arising from a fluoric polymerizable monomer having alkyl fluoride groups and a bond unit arising from a polymerizable monomer having phosphate ~~groups.~~ groups, said copolymer being soluble in a solvent due to its molecular structure, wherein the alkyl fluoride groups and the phosphate groups are present in separate side chains of the copolymer.

2. (Original) The flake pigment according to claim 1, wherein said copolymer is a copolymer comprising the bond unit arising from the fluoric polymerizable monomer having alkyl fluoride groups and the bond unit arising from the polymerizable monomer having phosphate groups, as well as at least one bond unit arising from a polymerizable monomer other than said bond units.

3. (Original) The flake pigment according to claim 2, wherein at least one bond unit arising from the polymerizable monomer other than the bond unit arising from the fluoric polymerizable monomer having alkyl fluoride groups and the bond unit arising from the polymerizable monomer having phosphate groups is styrene or methyl methacrylate.

4. (Original) The flake pigment according to claim 1, wherein said fluoric polymerizable monomer having alkyl fluoride groups is perfluorooctylethyl acrylate, and said polymerizable monomer having phosphate groups is 2-methacryloyloxyethyl acid phosphate or 2-acryloyloxyethyl acid phosphate.

5. (Original) The flake pigment according to claim 1, wherein the content of said bond unit arising from the fluoric polymerizable monomer having alkyl fluoride groups is in the range of 1 to 40 mol %, the content of said bond unit arising from the polymerizable monomer having phosphate groups is in the range of 1 to 30 mol % and the number average molecular weight is in the range of 1000 to 500000 in said copolymer.

6. (Original) The flake pigment according to claim 1, wherein said copolymer is a copolymer soluble in a solvent.

7. (Original) The flake pigment according to claim 1, wherein said flake particles are flake particles composed of a material containing aluminum or an aluminum alloy.

8. (Original) A paint containing the flake pigment according to claim 1 and a binder.

9. (Original) A powder paint containing the flake pigment according to claim 1 and thermosetting resin powder.

10. (Original) A powder paint containing thermosetting resin powder prepared by bonding the flake pigment according to claim 1 to the surface through a binder having viscosity.

11. (Currently Amended) A finishing agent for flake particles comprising a resin composition containing a copolymer comprising a bond unit arising from a fluoric polymerizable monomer having alkyl fluoride groups and a bond unit arising from a polymerizable monomer having phosphate ~~groups.~~ groups, said copolymer being soluble in a solvent due to its molecular structure, wherein the alkyl fluoride groups and the phosphate groups are present in separate side chains of the copolymer.